

REMARKS

Claims 17-30, 32-33, and 35-39 are pending herein. By the Office Action, claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and claims 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). By this Amendment, claims 31 and 34 are canceled, claims 32 and 33 are amended, and new claims 35-39 are added. Claims 32 and 33 are amended to depend from claims 25 and 17, respectively. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 17-30 are allowed. For the reasons set forth below, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

I. §112 Rejection

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. By this Amendment, claim 33 is amended to use more idiomatic English. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. §103 Rejection

Claims 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Furukawa in view of Kai. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejection, claims 31 and 34 are canceled herein, and claims 32 and 33 are amended to depend from allowed claims as suggested by the Examiner to distinguish over the cited references. Original claims 31-34 are pursued in a concurrently filed divisional application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. New Claims

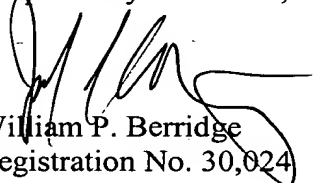
New claims 35-39 are added. New claims 35-39 correspond to allowed claims 29 and 30, but depend from other allowed claims. Accordingly, claims 35-39 should also be allowed for at least the same reasons as claims 29 and 30.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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